**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Appln. No: 10/043,837  
Applicants: Yoshio Ikura et al.  
Filed: January 9, 2002  
Title: CONCENTRATOR  
TC/A.U.: 2662  
Examiner: Hassan Kizou  
Confirmation No.: 1180  
Docket No.: MAT-8221US

**SUPPLEMENTAL**  
**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98 and to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, the Examiner in charge of the above-identified application is requested to consider and make of record the references listed on the PTO 1449 (R&P) submitted herewith. A copy of each of the listed references is also enclosed.

Although the information submitted herewith may be "material" to the Examiner's consideration of the subject application, this submission is not intended to constitute an admission that such information is "prior art" as to the claimed invention.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made.

The following Japanese reference is not in the English language:

- 1) 11-122285

Reference 1) includes an English abstract and a counterpart English language patent.

No first Official Action has yet been received and it is presumed that none has yet been mailed. No fee or statement is required. 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b). ).

Respectfully submitted,

  
Lawrence E. Ashery, Reg. No. 34,515  
Attorney for Applicants

LEA/fp

Enclosures: PTO Form 1449  
Copies of 2 references

Dated: April 22, 2004

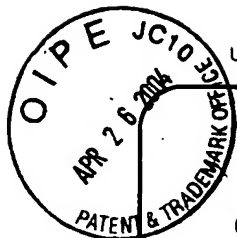
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#9 RS 2662

PTO/SB/21 (AW)(03-03)

Approved for use through 04/30/2003. OMB 0651-0031

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## TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission **4** +2 refs.

Application Number **10/043,837**

Filing Date **January 9, 2002**

First Named Inventor **Yoshio Ikura et al.**

Art Unit **2662**

Examiner Name **Hassan Kizou**

Attorney Docket No. **MAT-8221US**

### ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)

☐ Fee Transmittal Form

☐ Fee Attached

☐ Amendment/Reply

☐ After Final

☐ Affidavits/Declaration(s)

☐ Extension of Time Request

☐ Express Abandonment Request

☒ Information Disclosure Statement

☐ Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)

☐ Response to Missing Parts/  
Incomplete Application

☐ Response to Missing Parts under  
37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53

☐ Drawing(s)

☐ Licensing-related Papers

☐ Petition

☐ Petition to Convert to a  
Provisional Application

☐ Power of Attorney, Revocation,  
Change of Correspondence  
Address

☐ Terminal Disclaimer

☐ Request for Refund

☐ CD, Number of CD(s) \_\_\_\_\_

☐ After Allowance Communication  
to Group

☐ Appeal Communication to Board  
of Appeals and Interferences

☐ Appeal Communication to Group  
(Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply  
Brief)

☐ Proprietary Information

☐ Status Letter

☒ Other Enclosure(s) (please  
identify below):

return postcard, 2 references, PTO  
Form 1449

Remarks:

APR 28 2004

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### SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT

Firm or  
Individual

**Lawrence E. Ashery**

Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)

**34,515**

Signature

Date

**April 22, 2004**

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